

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
7 April 2005 (07.04.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/031041 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C25C 5/04, 7/02

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/AU2004/001331

(22) International Filing Date:  
27 September 2004 (27.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2003905261 26 September 2003 (26.09.2003) AU

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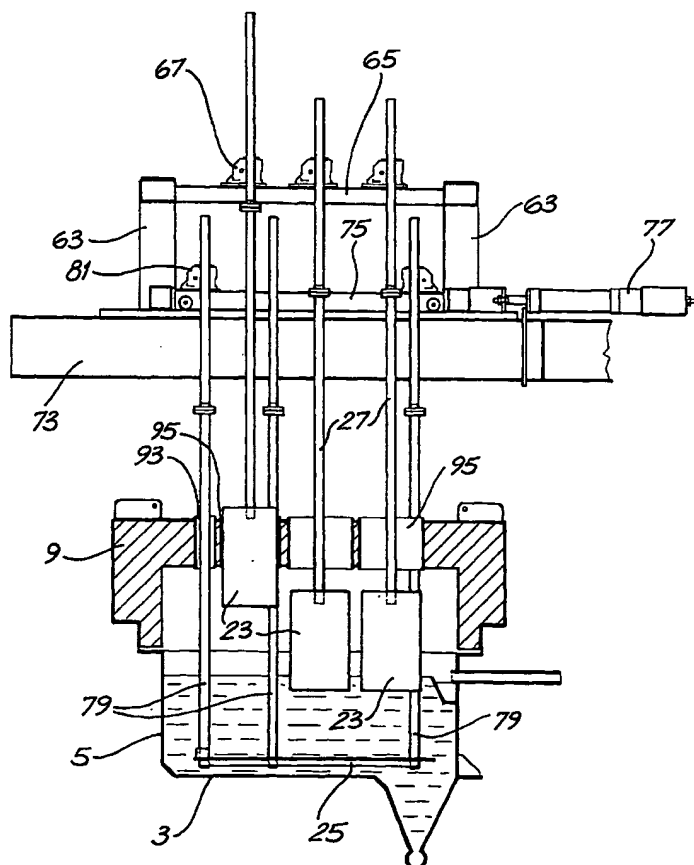
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ELECTROCHEMICAL REDUCTION OF METAL OXIDES



(57) Abstract: An electrolytic cell (1) for reducing metal oxide powders and/or pellets in a continuous or semi-continuous manner, the cell includes a cathode (25) in the form of a plate that has an upper surface for supporting metal oxide powders and/or pellets. The plate is supported for movement so as to cause the metal oxide on the upper surface to move toward a forward end of the plate while immersed in a molten electrolyte (21). The cell includes multiple anodes (23) and support structures (63, 65) that separately support the cathode and the anodes from above the cell. In a preferred embodiment the anode support structure enables adjustment of the spacing of the anodes above the upper surface of the cathode.



GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— with international search report

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